U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

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News Release





For Immediate Release Contact: Dan Balduini Date: February 22, 2012 (702) 515-5480

Friends of the Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex hosting social gathering for Alamo area residents

ALAMO, Nev. — The Friends of the Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex (Friends) invite residents of the Pahranagat Valley and Alamo, Nev., area to an early evening social and presentation on March 1, 2012. The event is scheduled from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., in the multipurpose room at the Pahranagat Valley Elementary School located at 199 Broadway in Alamo.

The gathering includes refreshments and offers an opportunity to meet Friends group members and representatives of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service). Attendees will also be able to learn more about the work of the Friends and how to join the organization.

Staff of the Pahranagat National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) will conduct presentations about some of the ongoing scientific work on the wildlife refuge. Education Specialist Sierra Willoughby and Fish and Wildlife Biologist Darrell Freeman will share information on current research regarding frogs, fish, birds, and other wildlife, as well as their habitats on the refuge. The presentations will be available live on the Internet, as well. Anyone interested in participating online can contact Harry Konwin via email to harry_konwin@fws.gov or by telephone at (702) 515-5494. To ensure online access, please contact Konwin no later than 4 p.m., on Wednesday, February 29, 2012.

The <u>Friends</u> group was established in the fall of 2009 by private citizens to support the mission and values of the Service and the <u>Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex</u> (Desert Complex). That support comes in the form of advocacy, stewardship, and outreach. Members regularly volunteer to perform hands-on work on Desert Complex wildlife refuges — everything from removing invasive plants for habitat restoration to planting native species and constructing trails. The Desert Complex is comprised of the four wildlife refuges in southern Nevada; Ash Meadows NWR, Desert NWR, Moapa Valley NWR, and Pahranagat NWR.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals, and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov.cno. Connect with our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/usfwspacificsouthwest, follow our tweets at http://twitter.com/USFWSPacSWest, watch our YouTube Channel at www.youtube.com/usfws and download photos from our Flickr page at www.flickr.com/photos/usfws pacificsw/.